

Minutes
Town of Vernon Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting of October 20, 2010

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Commissioners Present: Tim Ackert, Bill Breslau, Bruce Kellogg, Bill McGurk, James Sendrak
Town Staff Present: Marina Rodriguez

In Chairman Cohen's absence, Commissioner Breslau agreed to chair the meeting.

1. Public Forum: None present
2. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Commissioner Kellogg, seconded by Commissioner Ackert, the minutes of September 15, 2010 were approved.
3. Administrative Items
 - A. Communications and Correspondence: correspondence was circulated.
 - B. Other: TCCC annual meeting at Georgina's in Bolton 7:45 a.m., three Vernon businesses being recognized.
4. Update on Implementation of EDC Priorities
 - A. Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD): comments on draft Infrastructure Booklet #6 can still be submitted; public meetings on the comprehensive draft Plan are expected to be held next year. The Commission requested that the Town provide an annual list of all infrastructure projects (street reconstruction, sidewalk repairs, utility work, etc) scheduled for construction by location. This would help businesses prepare for any possible disruption due to scheduled work that would affect their operation. Staff will follow-up on this with DPW and others.
 - B. Intermodal Transportation Center: Bruce Kellogg reported that this is being reconsidered by Town Council. There is a meeting with Administration next Tuesday to address issues related to connecting the State commuter lot off exit 65 and 375 Hartford Turnpike and developing a pedestrian friendly pathways. A landscape architect is being consulted on this. Bruce will continue monitoring this issue.
 - C. Alternative Energy: staff contacted Joel Rinebold, Energy Initiatives Director at CCAT and Jeffrey Boultrice, Vernon's Clean Energy 20% by 2010 program to schedule them for the November 17th meeting. We're waiting to hear from Mr. Rinebold. The Commission wants the presentations to be informational & focus on alternative energy possibilities in Vernon; EDC doesn't want a sales pitch. EDC would like to publicize the speakers and invite Council members and interested businesses to attend. Also, provide breakfast.

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continued

5. Tax incentives for Economic Development:

Staff completed the research on incentives for economic development and discussed Commission involvement. Bill Breslau agreed to work with staff to finalize the draft and develop a process that may involve the EDC in its advisory role.

6. Economic Development Status Update

Staff distributed the update report dated October 20, 2010 and answered questions. EDC again agreed to support the PDZ Exit 67 zoning amendment regarding setbacks at the PZC hearing on 10/21/10.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Marina C. Rodriguez, ^{MCR} AICP, CED Coordinator & ATP